

Apr. 15, 2004

## **NEWS -- Office of Supervisor Mike Antonovich**

For release Apr: 20, subject to Board approval of Agenda Items 48

### **COUNTY TO PERFORM MORE POST WILDFIRE WORK**

Los Angeles County Supervisor Mike Antonovich has announced plans to remove and dispose of debris and eroded sediment from the Live Oak Dam and Reservoir, in the vicinity of Claremont, in order to prevent further damage from the 2002 Williams Fire and 2003 Padua Fire. Work is needed in order to prevent flooding downstream in the event of a large storm.

The fires burned over 90% of the area that naturally flows to the reservoir, destroyed vegetation that provided a natural barrier to potential mudslides and flooding. Over 115,000 tons of sediment that has been deposited in the reservoir will be removed under this contract. Erosion will continue at a high rate over the next several years until vegetative growth recovers. Unless it is removed, excessive amounts of debris and sediment can prevent the flood control system from functioning properly.

The County Department of Public Works will open bids May 25 on a contract to perform the work. Public Works expects removal of debris and sediment to start in September and take 80 working days to complete, ending in December.

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